

# National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS), National Geography Standards (NGS), Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS)

Subjects: Science, Social Studies

Grades: 2, 3, 4

## Virtual Field Trips

### Grade 3 - Geography of Our Communities

National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS)

Social Studies

#### Grade 2 - Adopted: 2010

THEME	NCSS.1. CULTURE
DEFINITION	SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF CULTURE AND CULTURAL DIVERSITY.
CATEGORY	1.2. PROCESSES - Learners will be able to:
LEARNING EXPECTATION	1.2.1. Ask and find answers to questions related to culture in the contexts of school, community, state, and region.
THEME	NCSS.3. PEOPLE, PLACES, AND ENVIRONMENTS
DEFINITION	SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF PEOPLE, PLACES, AND ENVIRONMENTS.
CATEGORY	3.1. KNOWLEDGE - Learners will understand:
LEARNING EXPECTATION	3.1.3. Physical and human characteristics of the school, community, state, and region, and the interactions of people in these places with the environment.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	3.1.4. Factors influencing various community, state, and regional patterns of human settlement, such as the availability of land and water, and places for people to live.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	3.1.7. Benefits and problems resulting from the discovery and use of resources.
THEME	NCSS.3. PEOPLE, PLACES, AND ENVIRONMENTS
DEFINITION	SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF PEOPLE, PLACES, AND ENVIRONMENTS.
CATEGORY	3.2. PROCESSES - Learners will be able to:
LEARNING EXPECTATION	3.2.1. Ask and find answers to geographic questions related to the school, community, state, region, and world.
THEME	NCSS.3. PEOPLE, PLACES, AND ENVIRONMENTS
DEFINITION	SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF PEOPLE, PLACES, AND ENVIRONMENTS.
CATEGORY	3.3. PRODUCTS - Learners demonstrate understanding by:

LEARNING EXPECTATION	3.3.2.	Constructing a map depicting the school, community, state, or region that demonstrates an understanding of relative location, direction, boundaries, and significant physical features.
THEME	NCSS.5.	INDIVIDUALS, GROUPS, AND INSTITUTIONS
DEFINITION		SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF INTERACTIONS AMONG INDIVIDUALS, GROUPS, AND INSTITUTIONS.
CATEGORY	5.1.	KNOWLEDGE - Learners will understand:
LEARNING EXPECTATION	5.1.2.	Concepts such as: community, culture, role, competition, cooperation, rules, and norms.

**National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS)**

**Social Studies**

**Grade 3** - Adopted: 2010

THEME	NCSS.1.	CULTURE
DEFINITION		SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF CULTURE AND CULTURAL DIVERSITY.
CATEGORY	1.2.	PROCESSES - Learners will be able to:
LEARNING EXPECTATION	1.2.1.	Ask and find answers to questions related to culture in the contexts of school, community, state, and region.
THEME	NCSS.3.	PEOPLE, PLACES, AND ENVIRONMENTS
DEFINITION		SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF PEOPLE, PLACES, AND ENVIRONMENTS.
CATEGORY	3.1.	KNOWLEDGE - Learners will understand:
LEARNING EXPECTATION	3.1.3.	Physical and human characteristics of the school, community, state, and region, and the interactions of people in these places with the environment.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	3.1.4.	Factors influencing various community, state, and regional patterns of human settlement, such as the availability of land and water, and places for people to live.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	3.1.7.	Benefits and problems resulting from the discovery and use of resources.
THEME	NCSS.3.	PEOPLE, PLACES, AND ENVIRONMENTS
DEFINITION		SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF PEOPLE, PLACES, AND ENVIRONMENTS.
CATEGORY	3.2.	PROCESSES - Learners will be able to:
LEARNING EXPECTATION	3.2.1.	Ask and find answers to geographic questions related to the school, community, state, region, and world.
THEME	NCSS.3.	PEOPLE, PLACES, AND ENVIRONMENTS
DEFINITION		SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF PEOPLE, PLACES, AND ENVIRONMENTS.
CATEGORY	3.3.	PRODUCTS - Learners demonstrate understanding by:
LEARNING EXPECTATION	3.3.2.	Constructing a map depicting the school, community, state, or region that demonstrates an understanding of relative location, direction, boundaries, and

significant physical features.

THEME	NCSS.5. INDIVIDUALS, GROUPS, AND INSTITUTIONS
DEFINITION	SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF INTERACTIONS AMONG INDIVIDUALS, GROUPS, AND INSTITUTIONS.
CATEGORY	5.1. KNOWLEDGE - Learners will understand:
LEARNING EXPECTATION	5.1.2. Concepts such as: community, culture, role, competition, cooperation, rules, and norms.

### National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS)

#### Social Studies

#### Grade 4 - Adopted: 2010

THEME	NCSS.1. CULTURE
DEFINITION	SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF CULTURE AND CULTURAL DIVERSITY.
CATEGORY	1.2. PROCESSES - Learners will be able to:
LEARNING EXPECTATION	1.2.1. Ask and find answers to questions related to culture in the contexts of school, community, state, and region.
THEME	NCSS.3. PEOPLE, PLACES, AND ENVIRONMENTS
DEFINITION	SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF PEOPLE, PLACES, AND ENVIRONMENTS.
CATEGORY	3.1. KNOWLEDGE - Learners will understand:
LEARNING EXPECTATION	3.1.3. Physical and human characteristics of the school, community, state, and region, and the interactions of people in these places with the environment.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	3.1.4. Factors influencing various community, state, and regional patterns of human settlement, such as the availability of land and water, and places for people to live.
LEARNING EXPECTATION	3.1.7. Benefits and problems resulting from the discovery and use of resources.
THEME	NCSS.3. PEOPLE, PLACES, AND ENVIRONMENTS
DEFINITION	SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF PEOPLE, PLACES, AND ENVIRONMENTS.
CATEGORY	3.2. PROCESSES - Learners will be able to:
LEARNING EXPECTATION	3.2.1. Ask and find answers to geographic questions related to the school, community, state, region, and world.
THEME	NCSS.3. PEOPLE, PLACES, AND ENVIRONMENTS
DEFINITION	SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF PEOPLE, PLACES, AND ENVIRONMENTS.
CATEGORY	3.3. PRODUCTS - Learners demonstrate understanding by:
LEARNING EXPECTATION	3.3.2. Constructing a map depicting the school, community, state, or region that demonstrates an understanding of relative location, direction, boundaries, and significant physical features.

THEME	NCSS.5. INDIVIDUALS, GROUPS, AND INSTITUTIONS
DEFINITION	SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMS SHOULD INCLUDE EXPERIENCES THAT PROVIDE FOR THE STUDY OF INTERACTIONS AMONG INDIVIDUALS, GROUPS, AND INSTITUTIONS.
CATEGORY	5.1. KNOWLEDGE - Learners will understand:
LEARNING EXPECTATION	5.1.2. Concepts such as: community, culture, role, competition, cooperation, rules, and norms.

### National Geography Standards (NGS)

#### Science

#### Grade 2 - Adopted: 2012

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PR.	Places and Regions
STANDARD	PR.4.	The physical and human characteristics of places
STRAND	PR.4.2.	The Characteristics of Places: Places have physical and human characteristics
BENCHMARK	PR.4.2.A.	Describe and compare the physical characteristics of places at a variety of scales, local to global, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PR.4.2.A.2.	Describe and compare the vegetation in different places in the world (e.g., deserts, mountains, rain forests, plains).
EXPECTATION	PR.4.2.A.3.	Describe and compare the physical environments and landforms of different places in the world (e.g., mountains, islands, valleys or canyons, mesas).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.7.	The physical processes that shape the patterns of Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.7.1.	Components of Earth's Physical Systems: There are four components of Earth's physical systems (the atmosphere, biosphere, hydrosphere, and lithosphere)
BENCHMARK	PS.7.1.A.	Identify attributes of Earth's different physical systems, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PS.7.1.A.2.	Identify examples of water features on Earth's surface that comprise the hydrosphere (e.g., oceans, rivers, lakes, water vapor, ground water, different types of precipitation).
EXPECTATION	PS.7.1.A.3.	Identify examples of landforms on Earth's surface (e.g., mountains, volcanoes, valleys, plains).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.7.	The physical processes that shape the patterns of Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.7.3.	Physical Processes: Physical processes shape features on Earth's surface
BENCHMARK	PS.7.3.A.	Identify examples of physical processes, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PS.7.3.A.3.	Identify the components and relationships in the erosion cycle (e.g., water carving canyons, wind sculpting mesas, landslides, avalanches).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.7.	The physical processes that shape the patterns of Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.7.3.	Physical Processes: Physical processes shape features on Earth's surface

BENCHMARK	PS.7.3.B.	Describe how physical processes shape features on Earth's surface, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PS.7.3.B.2.	Describe the physical processes that shaped particular landform features using pictures of landforms such as canyons, mesas, and deltas.
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.8.	The characteristics and spatial distribution of ecosystems and biomes on Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.8.1.	Components of Ecosystems: The components of ecosystems
BENCHMARK	PS.8.1.A.	Identify the components of different ecosystems, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PS.8.1.A.2.	Identify examples of each ecosystem component (e.g., pine trees versus grasslands, low versus high rainfall, clay versus sandy soils).
EXPECTATION	PS.8.1.A.3.	Describe local ecosystems by surveying and recording the properties of their components.
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.8.	The characteristics and spatial distribution of ecosystems and biomes on Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.8.2.	Characteristics and Geographic Distribution of Ecosystems: The characteristics of ecosystems
BENCHMARK	PS.8.2.A.	Identify and describe the characteristics of ecosystems, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PS.8.2.A.1.	Identify and describe the characteristics of an ecosystem (specific types of plants, climate, and soil) in which a favorite or interesting creature lives.
EXPECTATION	PS.8.2.A.2.	Identify and draw pictures of different plants and animals in various local ecosystems (e.g., a pond, forest, city park).
EXPECTATION	PS.8.2.A.3.	Compare the characteristics of different ecosystems (e.g., pond, deciduous forest, coral reef).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.8.	The characteristics and spatial distribution of ecosystems and biomes on Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.8.3.	Characteristics and Geographic Distribution of Biomes: The characteristics of biomes
BENCHMARK	PS.8.3.A.	Describe the characteristics of biomes, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PS.8.3.A.1.	Describe the defining characteristics of a biome as a large region of ecosystems with similar climate and vegetation characteristics.
EXPECTATION	PS.8.3.A.2.	Describe the temperature, precipitation, and vegetation characteristics of various biomes, (e.g., deserts, grasslands, savannahs, temperate forests, tropical forests, arctic tundra).
EXPECTATION	PS.8.3.A.3.	Identify the characteristics in photographs of different types of vegetation and match them to the appropriate sections of a world climate map (e.g., cacti and succulents on a desert climate region, tropical forest trees on a tropical climate region, coral in shallow, tropical marine waters).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.HS.	Human Systems
STANDARD	HS.11.	The patterns and networks of economic interdependence on Earth's surface
STRAND	HS.11.4.	Connecting Economic Activities: Networks of transportation and

		communications are used to move information, products, and people
BENCHMARK	HS.11.4.A.	Describe and analyze different modes of transportation and communication used to move people, products, and ideas from place to place, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	HS.11.4.A.2.	Describe the different modes of transportation and communication used by students' families in their work and daily lives and construct a graph with the results to analyze which modes are employed most often.
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.HS.	Human Systems
STANDARD	HS.13.	How the forces of cooperation and conflict among people influence the division and control of Earth's surface
STRAND	HS.13.3.	Conflict: Conflicts arise when there is disagreement over the division, control, and management of Earth's surface
BENCHMARK	HS.13.3.A.	Analyze examples of disagreements over land uses in their community, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	HS.13.3.A.2.	Identify local land-use issues in which there are disagreements and analyze the perspectives of the key stakeholders (e.g., protection of environmentally sensitive areas, land use for commercial purposes, locating waste disposal sites).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.ES.	Environment and Society
STANDARD	ES.14.	How human actions modify the physical environment
STRAND	ES.14.3.	Consequences for People and Environments: The consequences of human modifications of the physical environment
BENCHMARK	ES.14.3.A.	Identify and describe examples of how human activities impact the physical environment, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	ES.14.3.A.1.	Identify and describe the changes in local habitats that resulted from human activities.
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.ES.	Environment and Society
STANDARD	ES.15.	How physical systems affect human systems
STRAND	ES.15.1.	Environmental Opportunities and Constraints: The physical environment provides opportunities for and imposes constraints on human activities
BENCHMARK	ES.15.1.B.	Describe examples in which the physical environment imposes constraints on human activities, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	ES.15.1.B.1.	Describe how human activities are limited by landforms such as flood plains, deltas, mountains, and slopes in choices of land use (e.g., agriculture, human settlement, transportation networks).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.ES.	Environment and Society
STANDARD	ES.15.	How physical systems affect human systems
STRAND	ES.15.2.	Environmental Hazards: Environmental hazards affect human activities
BENCHMARK	ES.15.2.B.	Describe and analyze the effects of environmental hazards on human activities, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	ES.15.2.B.1.	Describe how people change their behaviors in response to environmental hazards (e.g., knowing evacuation routes, building a storm shelter, conducting earthquake or tornado drills).
EXPECTATION	ES.15.2.B.3.	Construct a disaster preparedness manual for your community or school that includes a list of actions people should take in an emergency situation

		due to a local environmental hazard event.
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.ES.	Environment and Society
STANDARD	ES.16.	The changes that occur in the meaning, use, distribution, and importance of resources
STRAND	ES.16.1.	Types and Meanings of Resources: The characteristics of renewable, nonrenewable, and flow resources
BENCHMARK	ES.16.1.A.	Identify and explain the characteristics of renewable, nonrenewable, and flow resources, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	ES.16.1.A.1.	Explain the meaning of the term "resource" and then illustrate the idea of renewable, nonrenewable, and flow resources by sorting example photographs into each of the three categories.
EXPECTATION	ES.16.1.A.2.	Identify the types of energy resources that students and their families use in their everyday lives and then categorize each as renewable, nonrenewable, or flow resources.
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.UG.	The Uses of Geography
STANDARD	UG.18.	How to apply geography to interpret the present and plan for the future
STRAND	UG.18.1.	Using Geography to Interpret the Present and Plan for the Future: Geographic contexts (the human and physical characteristics of places and environments) are the settings for current events
BENCHMARK	UG.18.1.A.	Analyze geographic contexts in which current events and issues occur, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	UG.18.1.A.3.	Analyze a current environmental issue in the region (e.g., building or demolishing a dam, building or expansion of freeway system, creation of parks and open spaces, regulatory legislation on industry to prevent further air, water, and land pollution) and describe ways in which people and the environment interact to affect the issue positively and negatively.
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.UG.	The Uses of Geography
STANDARD	UG.18.	How to apply geography to interpret the present and plan for the future
STRAND	UG.18.2.	Changes in Geographic Contexts: Places, regions, and environments will continue to change
BENCHMARK	UG.18.2.A.	Describe current changes in places, regions, and environments and predict how these locations may be different in the future, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	UG.18.2.A.1.	Describe how to plan for the environmental future of a place by completing the following statements: "I will keep...." "I will change...." and "I will remove...."

### National Geography Standards (NGS)

#### Science

#### Grade 3 - Adopted: 2012

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PR.	Places and Regions
STANDARD	PR.4.	The physical and human characteristics of places
STRAND	PR.4.2.	The Characteristics of Places: Places have physical and human characteristics

BENCHMARK	PR.4.2.A.	Describe and compare the physical characteristics of places at a variety of scales, local to global, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PR.4.2.A.2.	Describe and compare the vegetation in different places in the world (e.g., deserts, mountains, rain forests, plains).
EXPECTATION	PR.4.2.A.3.	Describe and compare the physical environments and landforms of different places in the world (e.g., mountains, islands, valleys or canyons, mesas).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.7.	The physical processes that shape the patterns of Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.7.1.	Components of Earth's Physical Systems: There are four components of Earth's physical systems (the atmosphere, biosphere, hydrosphere, and lithosphere)
BENCHMARK	PS.7.1.A.	Identify attributes of Earth's different physical systems, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PS.7.1.A.2.	Identify examples of water features on Earth's surface that comprise the hydrosphere (e.g., oceans, rivers, lakes, water vapor, ground water, different types of precipitation).
EXPECTATION	PS.7.1.A.3.	Identify examples of landforms on Earth's surface (e.g., mountains, volcanoes, valleys, plains).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.7.	The physical processes that shape the patterns of Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.7.3.	Physical Processes: Physical processes shape features on Earth's surface
BENCHMARK	PS.7.3.A.	Identify examples of physical processes, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PS.7.3.A.3.	Identify the components and relationships in the erosion cycle (e.g., water carving canyons, wind sculpting mesas, landslides, avalanches).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.7.	The physical processes that shape the patterns of Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.7.3.	Physical Processes: Physical processes shape features on Earth's surface
BENCHMARK	PS.7.3.B.	Describe how physical processes shape features on Earth's surface, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PS.7.3.B.2.	Describe the physical processes that shaped particular landform features using pictures of landforms such as canyons, mesas, and deltas.
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.8.	The characteristics and spatial distribution of ecosystems and biomes on Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.8.1.	Components of Ecosystems: The components of ecosystems
BENCHMARK	PS.8.1.A.	Identify the components of different ecosystems, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PS.8.1.A.2.	Identify examples of each ecosystem component (e.g., pine trees versus grasslands, low versus high rainfall, clay versus sandy soils).
EXPECTATION	PS.8.1.A.3.	Describe local ecosystems by surveying and recording the properties of their components.
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.8.	The characteristics and spatial distribution of ecosystems and biomes on



		Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.8.2.	Characteristics and Geographic Distribution of Ecosystems: The characteristics of ecosystems
BENCHMARK	PS.8.2.A.	Identify and describe the characteristics of ecosystems, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PS.8.2.A.1.	Identify and describe the characteristics of an ecosystem (specific types of plants, climate, and soil) in which a favorite or interesting creature lives.
EXPECTATION	PS.8.2.A.2.	Identify and draw pictures of different plants and animals in various local ecosystems (e.g., a pond, forest, city park).
EXPECTATION	PS.8.2.A.3.	Compare the characteristics of different ecosystems (e.g., pond, deciduous forest, coral reef).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.8.	The characteristics and spatial distribution of ecosystems and biomes on Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.8.3.	Characteristics and Geographic Distribution of Biomes: The characteristics of biomes
BENCHMARK	PS.8.3.A.	Describe the characteristics of biomes, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PS.8.3.A.1.	Describe the defining characteristics of a biome as a large region of ecosystems with similar climate and vegetation characteristics.
EXPECTATION	PS.8.3.A.2.	Describe the temperature, precipitation, and vegetation characteristics of various biomes, (e.g., deserts, grasslands, savannahs, temperate forests, tropical forests, arctic tundra).
EXPECTATION	PS.8.3.A.3.	Identify the characteristics in photographs of different types of vegetation and match them to the appropriate sections of a world climate map (e.g., cacti and succulents on a desert climate region, tropical forest trees on a tropical climate region, coral in shallow, tropical marine waters).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.HS.	Human Systems
STANDARD	HS.11.	The patterns and networks of economic interdependence on Earth's surface
STRAND	HS.11.4.	Connecting Economic Activities: Networks of transportation and communications are used to move information, products, and people
BENCHMARK	HS.11.4.A.	Describe and analyze different modes of transportation and communication used to move people, products, and ideas from place to place, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	HS.11.4.A.2.	Describe the different modes of transportation and communication used by students' families in their work and daily lives and construct a graph with the results to analyze which modes are employed most often.
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.HS.	Human Systems
STANDARD	HS.13.	How the forces of cooperation and conflict among people influence the division and control of Earth's surface
STRAND	HS.13.3.	Conflict: Conflicts arise when there is disagreement over the division, control, and management of Earth's surface
BENCHMARK	HS.13.3.A.	Analyze examples of disagreements over land uses in their community, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	HS.13.3.A.2.	Identify local land-use issues in which there are disagreements and analyze the perspectives of the key stakeholders (e.g., protection of environmentally sensitive areas, land use for commercial purposes,

		locating waste disposal sites).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.ES.	Environment and Society
STANDARD	ES.14.	How human actions modify the physical environment
STRAND	ES.14.3.	Consequences for People and Environments: The consequences of human modifications of the physical environment
BENCHMARK	ES.14.3.A.	Identify and describe examples of how human activities impact the physical environment, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	ES.14.3.A.1.	Identify and describe the changes in local habitats that resulted from human activities.
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.ES.	Environment and Society
STANDARD	ES.15.	How physical systems affect human systems
STRAND	ES.15.1.	Environmental Opportunities and Constraints: The physical environment provides opportunities for and imposes constraints on human activities
BENCHMARK	ES.15.1.B.	Describe examples in which the physical environment imposes constraints on human activities, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	ES.15.1.B.1.	Describe how human activities are limited by landforms such as flood plains, deltas, mountains, and slopes in choices of land use (e.g., agriculture, human settlement, transportation networks).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.ES.	Environment and Society
STANDARD	ES.15.	How physical systems affect human systems
STRAND	ES.15.2.	Environmental Hazards: Environmental hazards affect human activities
BENCHMARK	ES.15.2.B.	Describe and analyze the effects of environmental hazards on human activities, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	ES.15.2.B.1.	Describe how people change their behaviors in response to environmental hazards (e.g., knowing evacuation routes, building a storm shelter, conducting earthquake or tornado drills).
EXPECTATION	ES.15.2.B.3.	Construct a disaster preparedness manual for your community or school that includes a list of actions people should take in an emergency situation due to a local environmental hazard event.
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.ES.	Environment and Society
STANDARD	ES.16.	The changes that occur in the meaning, use, distribution, and importance of resources
STRAND	ES.16.1.	Types and Meanings of Resources: The characteristics of renewable, nonrenewable, and flow resources
BENCHMARK	ES.16.1.A.	Identify and explain the characteristics of renewable, nonrenewable, and flow resources, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	ES.16.1.A.1.	Explain the meaning of the term "resource" and then illustrate the idea of renewable, nonrenewable, and flow resources by sorting example photographs into each of the three categories.
EXPECTATION	ES.16.1.A.2.	Identify the types of energy resources that students and their families use in their everyday lives and then categorize each as renewable, nonrenewable, or flow resources.
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.UG.	The Uses of Geography

STANDARD	UG.18.	How to apply geography to interpret the present and plan for the future
STRAND	UG.18.1.	Using Geography to Interpret the Present and Plan for the Future: Geographic contexts (the human and physical characteristics of places and environments) are the settings for current events
BENCHMARK	UG.18.1.A.	Analyze geographic contexts in which current events and issues occur, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	UG.18.1.A.3.	Analyze a current environmental issue in the region (e.g., building or demolishing a dam, building or expansion of freeway system, creation of parks and open spaces, regulatory legislation on industry to prevent further air, water, and land pollution) and describe ways in which people and the environment interact to affect the issue positively and negatively.
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.UG.	The Uses of Geography
STANDARD	UG.18.	How to apply geography to interpret the present and plan for the future
STRAND	UG.18.2.	Changes in Geographic Contexts: Places, regions, and environments will continue to change
BENCHMARK	UG.18.2.A.	Describe current changes in places, regions, and environments and predict how these locations may be different in the future, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	UG.18.2.A.1.	Describe how to plan for the environmental future of a place by completing the following statements: "I will keep...." "I will change...." and "I will remove...."

### National Geography Standards (NGS)

#### Science

#### Grade 4 - Adopted: 2012

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PR.	Places and Regions
STANDARD	PR.4.	The physical and human characteristics of places
STRAND	PR.4.2.	The Characteristics of Places: Places have physical and human characteristics
BENCHMARK	PR.4.2.A.	Describe and compare the physical characteristics of places at a variety of scales, local to global, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PR.4.2.A.2.	Describe and compare the vegetation in different places in the world (e.g., deserts, mountains, rain forests, plains).
EXPECTATION	PR.4.2.A.3.	Describe and compare the physical environments and landforms of different places in the world (e.g., mountains, islands, valleys or canyons, mesas).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.7.	The physical processes that shape the patterns of Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.7.1.	Components of Earth's Physical Systems: There are four components of Earth's physical systems (the atmosphere, biosphere, hydrosphere, and lithosphere)

BENCHMARK	PS.7.1.A.	Identify attributes of Earth's different physical systems, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PS.7.1.A.2.	Identify examples of water features on Earth's surface that comprise the hydrosphere (e.g., oceans, rivers, lakes, water vapor, ground water, different types of precipitation).
EXPECTATION	PS.7.1.A.3.	Identify examples of landforms on Earth's surface (e.g., mountains, volcanoes, valleys, plains).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.7.	The physical processes that shape the patterns of Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.7.3.	Physical Processes: Physical processes shape features on Earth's surface
BENCHMARK	PS.7.3.A.	Identify examples of physical processes, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PS.7.3.A.3.	Identify the components and relationships in the erosion cycle (e.g., water carving canyons, wind sculpting mesas, landslides, avalanches).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.7.	The physical processes that shape the patterns of Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.7.3.	Physical Processes: Physical processes shape features on Earth's surface
BENCHMARK	PS.7.3.B.	Describe how physical processes shape features on Earth's surface, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PS.7.3.B.2.	Describe the physical processes that shaped particular landform features using pictures of landforms such as canyons, mesas, and deltas.
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.8.	The characteristics and spatial distribution of ecosystems and biomes on Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.8.1.	Components of Ecosystems: The components of ecosystems
BENCHMARK	PS.8.1.A.	Identify the components of different ecosystems, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PS.8.1.A.2.	Identify examples of each ecosystem component (e.g., pine trees versus grasslands, low versus high rainfall, clay versus sandy soils).
EXPECTATION	PS.8.1.A.3.	Describe local ecosystems by surveying and recording the properties of their components.
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.8.	The characteristics and spatial distribution of ecosystems and biomes on Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.8.2.	Characteristics and Geographic Distribution of Ecosystems: The characteristics of ecosystems
BENCHMARK	PS.8.2.A.	Identify and describe the characteristics of ecosystems, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PS.8.2.A.1.	Identify and describe the characteristics of an ecosystem (specific types of plants, climate, and soil) in which a favorite or interesting creature lives.
EXPECTATION	PS.8.2.A.2.	Identify and draw pictures of different plants and animals in various local ecosystems (e.g., a pond, forest, city park).
EXPECTATION	PS.8.2.A.3.	Compare the characteristics of different ecosystems (e.g., pond, deciduous forest, coral reef).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems

ELEMENT		
STANDARD	PS.8.	The characteristics and spatial distribution of ecosystems and biomes on Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.8.3.	Characteristics and Geographic Distribution of Biomes: The characteristics of biomes
BENCHMARK	PS.8.3.A.	Describe the characteristics of biomes, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PS.8.3.A.1.	Describe the defining characteristics of a biome as a large region of ecosystems with similar climate and vegetation characteristics.
EXPECTATION	PS.8.3.A.2.	Describe the temperature, precipitation, and vegetation characteristics of various biomes, (e.g., deserts, grasslands, savannahs, temperate forests, tropical forests, arctic tundra).
EXPECTATION	PS.8.3.A.3.	Identify the characteristics in photographs of different types of vegetation and match them to the appropriate sections of a world climate map (e.g., cacti and succulents on a desert climate region, tropical forest trees on a tropical climate region, coral in shallow, tropical marine waters).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.HS.	Human Systems
STANDARD	HS.11.	The patterns and networks of economic interdependence on Earth's surface
STRAND	HS.11.4.	Connecting Economic Activities: Networks of transportation and communications are used to move information, products, and people
BENCHMARK	HS.11.4.A.	Describe and analyze different modes of transportation and communication used to move people, products, and ideas from place to place, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	HS.11.4.A.2.	Describe the different modes of transportation and communication used by students' families in their work and daily lives and construct a graph with the results to analyze which modes are employed most often.
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.HS.	Human Systems
STANDARD	HS.13.	How the forces of cooperation and conflict among people influence the division and control of Earth's surface
STRAND	HS.13.3.	Conflict: Conflicts arise when there is disagreement over the division, control, and management of Earth's surface
BENCHMARK	HS.13.3.A.	Analyze examples of disagreements over land uses in their community, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	HS.13.3.A.2.	Identify local land-use issues in which there are disagreements and analyze the perspectives of the key stakeholders (e.g., protection of environmentally sensitive areas, land use for commercial purposes, locating waste disposal sites).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.ES.	Environment and Society
STANDARD	ES.14.	How human actions modify the physical environment
STRAND	ES.14.3.	Consequences for People and Environments: The consequences of human modifications of the physical environment
BENCHMARK	ES.14.3.A.	Identify and describe examples of how human activities impact the physical environment, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	ES.14.3.A.1.	Identify and describe the changes in local habitats that resulted from human activities.
ESSENTIAL	NGS.ES.	Environment and Society

ELEMENT		
STANDARD	ES.15.	How physical systems affect human systems
STRAND	ES.15.1.	Environmental Opportunities and Constraints: The physical environment provides opportunities for and imposes constraints on human activities
BENCHMARK	ES.15.1.B.	Describe examples in which the physical environment imposes constraints on human activities, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	ES.15.1.B.1.	Describe how human activities are limited by landforms such as flood plains, deltas, mountains, and slopes in choices of land use (e.g., agriculture, human settlement, transportation networks).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.ES.	Environment and Society
STANDARD	ES.15.	How physical systems affect human systems
STRAND	ES.15.2.	Environmental Hazards: Environmental hazards affect human activities
BENCHMARK	ES.15.2.B.	Describe and analyze the effects of environmental hazards on human activities, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	ES.15.2.B.1.	Describe how people change their behaviors in response to environmental hazards (e.g., knowing evacuation routes, building a storm shelter, conducting earthquake or tornado drills).
EXPECTATION	ES.15.2.B.3.	Construct a disaster preparedness manual for your community or school that includes a list of actions people should take in an emergency situation due to a local environmental hazard event.
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.ES.	Environment and Society
STANDARD	ES.16.	The changes that occur in the meaning, use, distribution, and importance of resources
STRAND	ES.16.1.	Types and Meanings of Resources: The characteristics of renewable, nonrenewable, and flow resources
BENCHMARK	ES.16.1.A.	Identify and explain the characteristics of renewable, nonrenewable, and flow resources, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	ES.16.1.A.1.	Explain the meaning of the term "resource" and then illustrate the idea of renewable, nonrenewable, and flow resources by sorting example photographs into each of the three categories.
EXPECTATION	ES.16.1.A.2.	Identify the types of energy resources that students and their families use in their everyday lives and then categorize each as renewable, nonrenewable, or flow resources.
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.UG.	The Uses of Geography
STANDARD	UG.18.	How to apply geography to interpret the present and plan for the future
STRAND	UG.18.1.	Using Geography to Interpret the Present and Plan for the Future: Geographic contexts (the human and physical characteristics of places and environments) are the settings for current events
BENCHMARK	UG.18.1.A.	Analyze geographic contexts in which current events and issues occur, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	UG.18.1.A.3.	Analyze a current environmental issue in the region (e.g., building or demolishing a dam, building or expansion of freeway system, creation of parks and open spaces, regulatory legislation on industry to prevent further air, water, and land pollution) and describe ways in which people and the environment interact to affect the issue positively and negatively.
ESSENTIAL	NGS.UG.	The Uses of Geography

ELEMENT		
STANDARD	UG.18.	How to apply geography to interpret the present and plan for the future
STRAND	UG.18.2.	Changes in Geographic Contexts: Places, regions, and environments will continue to change
BENCHMARK	UG.18.2.A.	Describe current changes in places, regions, and environments and predict how these locations may be different in the future, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	UG.18.2.A.1.	Describe how to plan for the environmental future of a place by completing the following statements: “I will keep....” “I will change....” and “I will remove....”

### National Geography Standards (NGS)

#### Social Studies

#### Grade 2 - Adopted: 2012

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.WST.	The World in Spatial Terms
STANDARD	WST.2.	How to use mental maps to organize information about people, places, and environments in a spatial context
STRAND	WST.2.4.	Individual Perceptions Shape Mental Maps: Individuals may have different mental maps of places and regions
BENCHMARK	WST.2.4.A.	Describe how an individual’s views and understandings of places and regions differ, as expressed by his or her mental map, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	WST.2.4.A.1.	Identify and describe differences in students’ sketch maps of their community, including differences in details on their maps, scale, labels, location of features, etc.
EXPECTATION	WST.2.4.A.3.	Describe the differences in students’ views of a popular community attraction based on the details in their mental maps.
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PR.	Places and Regions
STANDARD	PR.4.	The physical and human characteristics of places
STRAND	PR.4.1.	The Concept of Place: Places are locations having distinctive characteristics that give them meaning and distinguish them from other locations
BENCHMARK	PR.4.1.A.	Describe the distinguishing characteristics and meanings of several different places, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PR.4.1.A.2.	Identify and describe the defining characteristics of the student’s community as a place.
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PR.	Places and Regions
STANDARD	PR.4.	The physical and human characteristics of places
STRAND	PR.4.2.	The Characteristics of Places: Places have physical and human characteristics
BENCHMARK	PR.4.2.A.	Describe and compare the physical characteristics of places at a variety of scales, local to global, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PR.4.2.A.3.	Describe and compare the physical environments and landforms of different places in the world (e.g., mountains, islands, valleys or canyons, mesas).
ESSENTIAL	NGS.PR.	Places and Regions

ELEMENT		
STANDARD	PR.5.	That people create regions to interpret Earth's complexity
STRAND	PR.5.1.	The Concept of Region: Regions are areas of Earth's surface with unifying physical and/or human characteristics
BENCHMARK	PR.5.1.A.	Describe the distinguishing characteristics and meanings of several different regions, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PR.5.1.A.2.	Identify the physical and human characteristics that can be used to define a region within the local community (e.g., the characteristics of a retail strip mall area, downtown or central business district, boundaries of ethnic neighborhoods).
EXPECTATION	PR.5.1.A.3.	Describe the characteristics that define a physical region in the state (e.g., Front Range in Colorado, Sand Hills in Nebraska, Hill Country in Texas).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PR.	Places and Regions
STANDARD	PR.6.	How culture and experience influence people's perceptions of places and regions
STRAND	PR.6.1.	The Perception of Places and Regions: People can have different views of the same places and regions
BENCHMARK	PR.6.1.A.	Describe how people view places in their community differently, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PR.6.1.A.2.	Describe how students view three well-known places in the community (e.g., police station, hospital, grocery store, shopping mall, school, park) and use the descriptions to illustrate the differences in their views.
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.7.	The physical processes that shape the patterns of Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.7.1.	Components of Earth's Physical Systems: There are four components of Earth's physical systems (the atmosphere, biosphere, hydrosphere, and lithosphere)
BENCHMARK	PS.7.1.A.	Identify attributes of Earth's different physical systems, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PS.7.1.A.1.	Identify different attributes of physical systems in photographs (e.g., sky, clouds, plants, soil, oceans, lakes, mountains).
EXPECTATION	PS.7.1.A.3.	Identify examples of landforms on Earth's surface (e.g., mountains, volcanoes, valleys, plains).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.8.	The characteristics and spatial distribution of ecosystems and biomes on Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.8.1.	Components of Ecosystems: The components of ecosystems
BENCHMARK	PS.8.1.A.	Identify the components of different ecosystems, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PS.8.1.A.1.	Identify the three major components of an ecosystem (i.e., biomass, climate, and soil).
EXPECTATION	PS.8.1.A.2.	Identify examples of each ecosystem component (e.g., pine trees versus grasslands, low versus high rainfall, clay versus sandy soils).
EXPECTATION	PS.8.1.A.3.	Describe local ecosystems by surveying and recording the properties of their components.
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems



ELEMENT		
STANDARD	PS.8.	The characteristics and spatial distribution of ecosystems and biomes on Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.8.2.	Characteristics and Geographic Distribution of Ecosystems: The characteristics of ecosystems
BENCHMARK	PS.8.2.A.	Identify and describe the characteristics of ecosystems, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PS.8.2.A.1.	Identify and describe the characteristics of an ecosystem (specific types of plants, climate, and soil) in which a favorite or interesting creature lives.
EXPECTATION	PS.8.2.A.3.	Compare the characteristics of different ecosystems (e.g., pond, deciduous forest, coral reef).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.8.	The characteristics and spatial distribution of ecosystems and biomes on Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.8.3.	Characteristics and Geographic Distribution of Biomes: The characteristics of biomes
BENCHMARK	PS.8.3.A.	Describe the characteristics of biomes, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PS.8.3.A.1.	Describe the defining characteristics of a biome as a large region of ecosystems with similar climate and vegetation characteristics.
EXPECTATION	PS.8.3.A.2.	Describe the temperature, precipitation, and vegetation characteristics of various biomes, (e.g., deserts, grasslands, savannahs, temperate forests, tropical forests, arctic tundra).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.HS.	Human Systems
STANDARD	HS.12.	The processes, patterns, and functions of human settlement
STRAND	HS.12.3.	Patterns of Settlement: There are different types of settlements
BENCHMARK	HS.12.3.A.	Compare and explain the different types of settlements in the local region and the United States, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	HS.12.3.A.2.	Analyze and compare the patterns of settlement of selected US cities (e.g., suburban sprawl of Los Angeles, linear mountain valley town of Aspen, Colorado, riverfront settlement of Charleston, South Carolina, the planned city of Washington, DC).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.HS.	Human Systems
STANDARD	HS.13.	How the forces of cooperation and conflict among people influence the division and control of Earth's surface
STRAND	HS.13.2.	Cooperation: The role cooperation has in managing Earth's surface
BENCHMARK	HS.13.2.A.	Explain how people cooperate in managing and using Earth's surface, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	HS.13.2.A.1.	Explain how international water boundaries are examples of people cooperating in dividing and using Earth's surface (e.g., 200-mile territorial limit, Great Lakes are divided between Canada and the United States, for river boundaries it is sometimes the center of the water in the river).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.ES.	Environment and Society
STANDARD	ES.14.	How human actions modify the physical environment
STRAND	ES.14.1.	Modification of the Physical Environment: People modify the physical environment

BENCHMARK	ES.14.1.A.	Identify and describe ways in which humans modify the physical environment, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	ES.14.1.A.1.	Identify and describe examples of human modifications to the physical environment surrounding the school or neighborhood (e.g., paving over vegetated areas, constructing buildings, building bridges, installing culverts or drainage ditches, removing or adding trees or shrubs).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.ES.	Environment and Society
STANDARD	ES.15.	How physical systems affect human systems
STRAND	ES.15.1.	Environmental Opportunities and Constraints: The physical environment provides opportunities for and imposes constraints on human activities
BENCHMARK	ES.15.1.A.	Describe examples in which the physical environment provides opportunities for human activities, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	ES.15.1.A.1.	Identify and describe the characteristics of the community's physical environment that first attracted people and enabled them to thrive and prosper (e.g., climate, water, soil, landforms).
EXPECTATION	ES.15.1.A.3.	Describe how people take advantage of the physical environment of their local community (e.g., water supply, farming, gardens, recreational activities).

### National Geography Standards (NGS)

#### Social Studies

### Grade 3 - Adopted: 2012

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.WST.	The World in Spatial Terms
STANDARD	WST.2.	How to use mental maps to organize information about people, places, and environments in a spatial context
STRAND	WST.2.4.	Individual Perceptions Shape Mental Maps: Individuals may have different mental maps of places and regions
BENCHMARK	WST.2.4.A.	Describe how an individual's views and understandings of places and regions differ, as expressed by his or her mental map, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	WST.2.4.A.1.	Identify and describe differences in students' sketch maps of their community, including differences in details on their maps, scale, labels, location of features, etc.
EXPECTATION	WST.2.4.A.3.	Describe the differences in students' views of a popular community attraction based on the details in their mental maps.
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PR.	Places and Regions
STANDARD	PR.4.	The physical and human characteristics of places
STRAND	PR.4.1.	The Concept of Place: Places are locations having distinctive characteristics that give them meaning and distinguish them from other locations
BENCHMARK	PR.4.1.A.	Describe the distinguishing characteristics and meanings of several different places, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PR.4.1.A.2.	Identify and describe the defining characteristics of the student's community as a place.
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PR.	Places and Regions

STANDARD	PR.4.	The physical and human characteristics of places
STRAND	PR.4.2.	The Characteristics of Places: Places have physical and human characteristics
BENCHMARK	PR.4.2.A.	Describe and compare the physical characteristics of places at a variety of scales, local to global, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PR.4.2.A.3.	Describe and compare the physical environments and landforms of different places in the world (e.g., mountains, islands, valleys or canyons, mesas).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PR.	Places and Regions
STANDARD	PR.5.	That people create regions to interpret Earth's complexity
STRAND	PR.5.1.	The Concept of Region: Regions are areas of Earth's surface with unifying physical and/or human characteristics
BENCHMARK	PR.5.1.A.	Describe the distinguishing characteristics and meanings of several different regions, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PR.5.1.A.2.	Identify the physical and human characteristics that can be used to define a region within the local community (e.g., the characteristics of a retail strip mall area, downtown or central business district, boundaries of ethnic neighborhoods).
EXPECTATION	PR.5.1.A.3.	Describe the characteristics that define a physical region in the state (e.g., Front Range in Colorado, Sand Hills in Nebraska, Hill Country in Texas).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PR.	Places and Regions
STANDARD	PR.6.	How culture and experience influence people's perceptions of places and regions
STRAND	PR.6.1.	The Perception of Places and Regions: People can have different views of the same places and regions
BENCHMARK	PR.6.1.A.	Describe how people view places in their community differently, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PR.6.1.A.2.	Describe how students view three well-known places in the community (e.g., police station, hospital, grocery store, shopping mall, school, park) and use the descriptions to illustrate the differences in their views.
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.7.	The physical processes that shape the patterns of Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.7.1.	Components of Earth's Physical Systems: There are four components of Earth's physical systems (the atmosphere, biosphere, hydrosphere, and lithosphere)
BENCHMARK	PS.7.1.A.	Identify attributes of Earth's different physical systems, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PS.7.1.A.1.	Identify different attributes of physical systems in photographs (e.g., sky, clouds, plants, soil, oceans, lakes, mountains).
EXPECTATION	PS.7.1.A.3.	Identify examples of landforms on Earth's surface (e.g., mountains, volcanoes, valleys, plains).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.8.	The characteristics and spatial distribution of ecosystems and biomes on Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.8.1.	Components of Ecosystems: The components of ecosystems
BENCHMARK	PS.8.1.A.	Identify the components of different ecosystems, as exemplified by being

		able to
EXPECTATION	PS.8.1.A.1.	Identify the three major components of an ecosystem (i.e., biomass, climate, and soil).
EXPECTATION	PS.8.1.A.2.	Identify examples of each ecosystem component (e.g., pine trees versus grasslands, low versus high rainfall, clay versus sandy soils).
EXPECTATION	PS.8.1.A.3.	Describe local ecosystems by surveying and recording the properties of their components.
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.8.	The characteristics and spatial distribution of ecosystems and biomes on Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.8.2.	Characteristics and Geographic Distribution of Ecosystems: The characteristics of ecosystems
BENCHMARK	PS.8.2.A.	Identify and describe the characteristics of ecosystems, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PS.8.2.A.1.	Identify and describe the characteristics of an ecosystem (specific types of plants, climate, and soil) in which a favorite or interesting creature lives.
EXPECTATION	PS.8.2.A.3.	Compare the characteristics of different ecosystems (e.g., pond, deciduous forest, coral reef).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.8.	The characteristics and spatial distribution of ecosystems and biomes on Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.8.3.	Characteristics and Geographic Distribution of Biomes: The characteristics of biomes
BENCHMARK	PS.8.3.A.	Describe the characteristics of biomes, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PS.8.3.A.1.	Describe the defining characteristics of a biome as a large region of ecosystems with similar climate and vegetation characteristics.
EXPECTATION	PS.8.3.A.2.	Describe the temperature, precipitation, and vegetation characteristics of various biomes, (e.g., deserts, grasslands, savannahs, temperate forests, tropical forests, arctic tundra).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.HS.	Human Systems
STANDARD	HS.12.	The processes, patterns, and functions of human settlement
STRAND	HS.12.3.	Patterns of Settlement: There are different types of settlements
BENCHMARK	HS.12.3.A.	Compare and explain the different types of settlements in the local region and the United States, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	HS.12.3.A.2.	Analyze and compare the patterns of settlement of selected US cities (e.g., suburban sprawl of Los Angeles, linear mountain valley town of Aspen, Colorado, riverfront settlement of Charleston, South Carolina, the planned city of Washington, DC).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.HS.	Human Systems
STANDARD	HS.13.	How the forces of cooperation and conflict among people influence the division and control of Earth's surface
STRAND	HS.13.2.	Cooperation: The role cooperation has in managing Earth's surface
BENCHMARK	HS.13.2.A.	Explain how people cooperate in managing and using Earth's surface, as exemplified by being able to

EXPECTATION	HS.13.2.A.1.	Explain how international water boundaries are examples of people cooperating in dividing and using Earth's surface (e.g., 200-mile territorial limit, Great Lakes are divided between Canada and the United States, for river boundaries it is sometimes the center of the water in the river).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.ES.	Environment and Society
STANDARD	ES.14.	How human actions modify the physical environment
STRAND	ES.14.1.	Modification of the Physical Environment: People modify the physical environment
BENCHMARK	ES.14.1.A.	Identify and describe ways in which humans modify the physical environment, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	ES.14.1.A.1.	Identify and describe examples of human modifications to the physical environment surrounding the school or neighborhood (e.g., paving over vegetated areas, constructing buildings, building bridges, installing culverts or drainage ditches, removing or adding trees or shrubs).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.ES.	Environment and Society
STANDARD	ES.15.	How physical systems affect human systems
STRAND	ES.15.1.	Environmental Opportunities and Constraints: The physical environment provides opportunities for and imposes constraints on human activities
BENCHMARK	ES.15.1.A.	Describe examples in which the physical environment provides opportunities for human activities, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	ES.15.1.A.1.	Identify and describe the characteristics of the community's physical environment that first attracted people and enabled them to thrive and prosper (e.g., climate, water, soil, landforms).
EXPECTATION	ES.15.1.A.3.	Describe how people take advantage of the physical environment of their local community (e.g., water supply, farming, gardens, recreational activities).

### National Geography Standards (NGS)

#### Social Studies

#### **Grade 4** - Adopted: 2012

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.WST.	The World in Spatial Terms
STANDARD	WST.2.	How to use mental maps to organize information about people, places, and environments in a spatial context
STRAND	WST.2.4.	Individual Perceptions Shape Mental Maps: Individuals may have different mental maps of places and regions
BENCHMARK	WST.2.4.A.	Describe how an individual's views and understandings of places and regions differ, as expressed by his or her mental map, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	WST.2.4.A.1.	Identify and describe differences in students' sketch maps of their community, including differences in details on their maps, scale, labels, location of features, etc.
EXPECTATION	WST.2.4.A.3.	Describe the differences in students' views of a popular community attraction based on the details in their mental maps.

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PR.	Places and Regions
STANDARD	PR.4.	The physical and human characteristics of places
STRAND	PR.4.1.	The Concept of Place: Places are locations having distinctive characteristics that give them meaning and distinguish them from other locations
BENCHMARK	PR.4.1.A.	Describe the distinguishing characteristics and meanings of several different places, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PR.4.1.A.2.	Identify and describe the defining characteristics of the student's community as a place.
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PR.	Places and Regions
STANDARD	PR.4.	The physical and human characteristics of places
STRAND	PR.4.2.	The Characteristics of Places: Places have physical and human characteristics
BENCHMARK	PR.4.2.A.	Describe and compare the physical characteristics of places at a variety of scales, local to global, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PR.4.2.A.3.	Describe and compare the physical environments and landforms of different places in the world (e.g., mountains, islands, valleys or canyons, mesas).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PR.	Places and Regions
STANDARD	PR.5.	That people create regions to interpret Earth's complexity
STRAND	PR.5.1.	The Concept of Region: Regions are areas of Earth's surface with unifying physical and/or human characteristics
BENCHMARK	PR.5.1.A.	Describe the distinguishing characteristics and meanings of several different regions, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PR.5.1.A.2.	Identify the physical and human characteristics that can be used to define a region within the local community (e.g., the characteristics of a retail strip mall area, downtown or central business district, boundaries of ethnic neighborhoods).
EXPECTATION	PR.5.1.A.3.	Describe the characteristics that define a physical region in the state (e.g., Front Range in Colorado, Sand Hills in Nebraska, Hill Country in Texas).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PR.	Places and Regions
STANDARD	PR.6.	How culture and experience influence people's perceptions of places and regions
STRAND	PR.6.1.	The Perception of Places and Regions: People can have different views of the same places and regions
BENCHMARK	PR.6.1.A.	Describe how people view places in their community differently, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PR.6.1.A.2.	Describe how students view three well-known places in the community (e.g., police station, hospital, grocery store, shopping mall, school, park) and use the descriptions to illustrate the differences in their views.
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.7.	The physical processes that shape the patterns of Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.7.1.	Components of Earth's Physical Systems: There are four components of

		Earth's physical systems (the atmosphere, biosphere, hydrosphere, and lithosphere)
BENCHMARK	PS.7.1.A.	Identify attributes of Earth's different physical systems, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PS.7.1.A.1.	Identify different attributes of physical systems in photographs (e.g., sky, clouds, plants, soil, oceans, lakes, mountains).
EXPECTATION	PS.7.1.A.3.	Identify examples of landforms on Earth's surface (e.g., mountains, volcanoes, valleys, plains).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.8.	The characteristics and spatial distribution of ecosystems and biomes on Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.8.1.	Components of Ecosystems: The components of ecosystems
BENCHMARK	PS.8.1.A.	Identify the components of different ecosystems, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PS.8.1.A.1.	Identify the three major components of an ecosystem (i.e., biomass, climate, and soil).
EXPECTATION	PS.8.1.A.2.	Identify examples of each ecosystem component (e.g., pine trees versus grasslands, low versus high rainfall, clay versus sandy soils).
EXPECTATION	PS.8.1.A.3.	Describe local ecosystems by surveying and recording the properties of their components.
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.8.	The characteristics and spatial distribution of ecosystems and biomes on Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.8.2.	Characteristics and Geographic Distribution of Ecosystems: The characteristics of ecosystems
BENCHMARK	PS.8.2.A.	Identify and describe the characteristics of ecosystems, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PS.8.2.A.1.	Identify and describe the characteristics of an ecosystem (specific types of plants, climate, and soil) in which a favorite or interesting creature lives.
EXPECTATION	PS.8.2.A.3.	Compare the characteristics of different ecosystems (e.g., pond, deciduous forest, coral reef).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.PS.	Physical Systems
STANDARD	PS.8.	The characteristics and spatial distribution of ecosystems and biomes on Earth's surface
STRAND	PS.8.3.	Characteristics and Geographic Distribution of Biomes: The characteristics of biomes
BENCHMARK	PS.8.3.A.	Describe the characteristics of biomes, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	PS.8.3.A.1.	Describe the defining characteristics of a biome as a large region of ecosystems with similar climate and vegetation characteristics.
EXPECTATION	PS.8.3.A.2.	Describe the temperature, precipitation, and vegetation characteristics of various biomes, (e.g., deserts, grasslands, savannahs, temperate forests, tropical forests, arctic tundra).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.HS.	Human Systems
STANDARD	HS.12.	The processes, patterns, and functions of human settlement

STRAND	HS.12.3.	Patterns of Settlement: There are different types of settlements
BENCHMARK	HS.12.3.A.	Compare and explain the different types of settlements in the local region and the United States, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	HS.12.3.A.2.	Analyze and compare the patterns of settlement of selected US cities (e.g., suburban sprawl of Los Angeles, linear mountain valley town of Aspen, Colorado, riverfront settlement of Charleston, South Carolina, the planned city of Washington, DC).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.HS.	Human Systems
STANDARD	HS.13.	How the forces of cooperation and conflict among people influence the division and control of Earth's surface
STRAND	HS.13.2.	Cooperation: The role cooperation has in managing Earth's surface
BENCHMARK	HS.13.2.A.	Explain how people cooperate in managing and using Earth's surface, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	HS.13.2.A.1.	Explain how international water boundaries are examples of people cooperating in dividing and using Earth's surface (e.g., 200-mile territorial limit, Great Lakes are divided between Canada and the United States, for river boundaries it is sometimes the center of the water in the river).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.ES.	Environment and Society
STANDARD	ES.14.	How human actions modify the physical environment
STRAND	ES.14.1.	Modification of the Physical Environment: People modify the physical environment
BENCHMARK	ES.14.1.A.	Identify and describe ways in which humans modify the physical environment, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	ES.14.1.A.1.	Identify and describe examples of human modifications to the physical environment surrounding the school or neighborhood (e.g., paving over vegetated areas, constructing buildings, building bridges, installing culverts or drainage ditches, removing or adding trees or shrubs).
ESSENTIAL ELEMENT	NGS.ES.	Environment and Society
STANDARD	ES.15.	How physical systems affect human systems
STRAND	ES.15.1.	Environmental Opportunities and Constraints: The physical environment provides opportunities for and imposes constraints on human activities
BENCHMARK	ES.15.1.A.	Describe examples in which the physical environment provides opportunities for human activities, as exemplified by being able to
EXPECTATION	ES.15.1.A.1.	Identify and describe the characteristics of the community's physical environment that first attracted people and enabled them to thrive and prosper (e.g., climate, water, soil, landforms).
EXPECTATION	ES.15.1.A.3.	Describe how people take advantage of the physical environment of their local community (e.g., water supply, farming, gardens, recreational activities).

### Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS)

#### Science

**Grade 2** - Adopted: 2013



STRAND	NGSS.2-LS.	LIFE SCIENCE
TITLE	2-LS4.	Biological Evolution: Unity and Diversity Students who demonstrate understanding can:
PERFORMANCE EXPECTATION	2-LS4-1.	Make observations of plants and animals to compare the diversity of life in different habitats.
STRAND	NGSS.2-ESS.	EARTH AND SPACE SCIENCE
TITLE	2-ESS1.	Earth's Place in the Universe Students who demonstrate understanding can:
PERFORMANCE EXPECTATION	2-ESS1-1.	Make observations from media to construct an evidence-based account that Earth events can occur quickly or slowly.
STRAND	NGSS.2-ESS.	EARTH AND SPACE SCIENCE
TITLE	2-ESS2.	Earth's Systems Students who demonstrate understanding can:
PERFORMANCE EXPECTATION	2-ESS2-1.	Compare multiple solutions designed to slow or prevent wind or water from changing the shape of the land.
PERFORMANCE EXPECTATION	2-ESS2-2.	Develop a model to represent the shapes and kinds of land and bodies of water in an area.
PERFORMANCE EXPECTATION	2-ESS2-3.	Obtain information to identify where water is found on Earth and that it can be solid or liquid.

**Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS)**

**Science**

**Grade 3** - Adopted: 2013

STRAND	NGSS.3-LS.	LIFE SCIENCE
TITLE	3-LS4.	Biological Evolution: Unity and Diversity Students who demonstrate understanding can:
PERFORMANCE EXPECTATION	3-LS4-4.	Make a claim about the merit of a solution to a problem caused when the environment changes and the types of plants and animals that live there may change.
STRAND	NGSS.3-ESS.	EARTH AND SPACE SCIENCE
TITLE	3-ESS3.	Earth and Human Activity Students who demonstrate understanding can:
PERFORMANCE EXPECTATION	3-ESS3-1.	Make a claim about the merit of a design solution that reduces the impacts of a weather-related hazard.

**Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS)**

**Science**

**Grade 4** - Adopted: 2013

STRAND	NGSS.4-ESS.	EARTH AND SPACE SCIENCE
TITLE	4-ESS2.	Earth's Systems
		Students who demonstrate understanding can:
PERFORMANCE EXPECTATION	4-ESS2-1.	Make observations and/or measurements to provide evidence of the effects of weathering or the rate of erosion by water, ice, wind, or vegetation.
STRAND	NGSS.4-ESS.	EARTH AND SPACE SCIENCE
TITLE	4-ESS3.	Earth and Human Activity
		Students who demonstrate understanding can:
PERFORMANCE EXPECTATION	4-ESS3-1.	Obtain and combine information to describe that energy and fuels are derived from natural resources and their uses affect the environment.
PERFORMANCE EXPECTATION	4-ESS3-2.	Generate and compare multiple solutions to reduce the impacts of natural Earth processes on humans.

© 2018 EdGate Correlation Services, LLC. All Rights reserved.

[Contact Us](#) - [Privacy](#) - [Service Agreement](#)